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Patti Crowder
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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appl. No. : 10/815,400 Conf. No. 7966

Applicant : Eldridge et al.
Filed : March 31, 2004
TC/A.U. : 2829
Examiner : Karlsen, Ernest F.

Docket No. : P71C2-US
Customer No. : 27520

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RESPONSE

Sir:

In response to the Office Action of October 20, 2004, the shortened statutory period for response to which ends after November 22, 2004, (the first business day following November 20, 2004), Applicants respectfully submit the following Response.

REMARKS

In the outstanding Office Action, claims 1-45 were restricted under 35 U.S.C. 121. However, claims 1-45 were canceled by Applicants upon the filing of the present application as shown on page 3 of the Utility Patent Application Transmittal and page 9 of the Preliminary Amendment, both of which were filed March 31, 2004 with the present application. Copies of both the Application Transmittal and Preliminary Amendment as filed are attached.